

# RESERVED WATER RIGHTS COMPACT COMMISSION



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January 30, 2012

John Carter  
Rhonda Swaney  
Legal Department  
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes  
P.O. Box 278  
Pablo, MT 59855

### By E-mail

Dear John and Rhonda:

Attached please find a document entitled "Detailed Explanation of the State of Montana's Proposal for the Resolution of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes' Claims to Off-Reservation Water Rights," which is a follow-up to *The State of Montana's Proposal for the Resolution of the Off-Reservation Water Rights Claims of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes*, which was transmitted to you on July 20, 2011. In the July document, we committed to refining the technical aspects of the water rights for the Kootenai and Swan Rivers, which were treated in narrative form in that document. This "Detailed Explanation" contains those technical details, as well as a refinement of our proposal for resolving the Tribes' claims to off-reservation water rights in the Upper Clark Fork Drainage. We note that this "Detailed Explanation" does not contain the particulars of the State's vision for how co-ownership by the Tribes and Montana Fish Wildlife and Park of various of the rights identified in the July Proposal document. We intend to present that vision to you in the near future.

We look forward to discussing this document and the entirety of the State's proposal for the resolution of the Tribes' claims to off-reservation water rights at your earliest convenience. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jay Weiner  
Staff Attorney  
Montana Reserved Water Rights  
Compact Commission

Cc: Duane Mecham, David Harder